

Name: _____

How to Write a Narrative

Decide your
story's
adversity

- **Activity 1:** Complete the sheet *"Brainstorming ideas for narrative writing"*
- **Activity 2:** Complete the handout titled *"Possible Narrative Topics"* to help you narrow down what your story will be about

Think big
picture about
your story

- **Activity 3:** Start thinking about the big picture of your story by completing the *"Possible Narrative Elements Ideas"* handout. From these ideas you will choose a specific plot to base your story around.

Establish your
plot

- **Activity 4:** Develop your plot by considering the beginning, middle and end to your story. The *"Developing your plot"* handout will help you with this

Narrative Text

Activity 1: Brainstorming Ideas for Narrative Writing

Use the following graphic organizer to brainstorm ideas for your narrative. In each box write examples of problems, difficult things to overcome or examples of adversity

School

Example: Failing a course

Family/Friends

Example: Losing a close family member to a death

Work

Example: Getting fired from a job.

Relationships (Girlfriends/Boyfriends)

Example: Getting in a fight with your boyfriend/girlfriend

Activity 2: Possible Narrative Topics

1. In the space below write three possible ideas that you have considered that you might use to write your narrative about. Remember, each topic must somehow involve **overcoming adversity**.

Potential narrative writing ideas	Put a check in the box if the answer is yes
Idea # 1:	<input type="checkbox"/> I know enough about this subject <input type="checkbox"/> This subject is 'big' enough to write about
Idea # 2:	<input type="checkbox"/> I know enough about this subject <input type="checkbox"/> This subject is 'big' enough to write about
Idea # 3:	<input type="checkbox"/> I know enough about this subject <input type="checkbox"/> This subject is 'big' enough to write about

2. Which of the ideas is your favourite? _____

3. Why do you think that this is the best subject to write about? _____

Activity 3: Possible Narrative Elements Ideas

Now that you've got a topic in mind for your narrative, it's time to start thinking about some of the narrative elements that you will use in your story. Using the graphic organizer below, come up with at least 20 ideas for your favourite narrative idea. You may use point form. Use a blank piece of paper if you need more space. Remember, this is only a brainstorming stage, your ideas may change along the way.

Plot (A summary of WHAT your story will be about)

Characters (The WHO of your story)

Setting (The WHEN and WHERE of your story)

Others (any other ideas that you might come up with that don't fit in the other categories)

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Activity 4: Developing your plot

Beginning -The problem or 'adversity' is introduced	
Middle -The problem or 'adversity' becomes even more complicated -The protagonist (good guy) challenges the antagonist (bad guy)	
End -The problem or 'adversity' is solved	

Activity 5: Character Development

Characters are a very important element of narratives. It is important to know which characters you will have in your story before you start writing your narrative.

Remember: Characters are usually introduced in the **BEGINNING** of a narrative.

Two important narrative elements are the protagonist and the antagonist:

Protagonist: _____

Antagonist: _____

1. Use the spaces below to list the characters you plan to have in your narrative. Remember your narrative must have AT LEAST one character who overcomes adversity (the protagonist).

a) Protagonist's name: _____

- ☐ The narrative will follow this character's actions and adventure
- ☐ This character overcomes a type of adversity.
- ➡ The adversity (problem/obstacle) that this character faces is:

➡ The way that this character overcomes (solves) this adversity is:

b) Antagonist's name: _____

- ☐ This character tries to stop the protagonist from achieving his goal (either on purpose or by accident)